

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (canceled).

1 2. (currently amended) ~~Custom moulded ear plug~~ The device
2 as in claim 8 or 9 ~~±~~, characterized in that, over its length,
3 the channel features varying cross-sectional dimensions or
4 shapes.

1 3. (currently amended) ~~Custom moulded ear plug~~ The device
2 as in claim ~~1 or~~ 2, 8, or 9, characterized in that a matching
3 stub line serving for the tuning of the acoustic transmission
4 properties between the coupling ~~port~~ opening and the input or
5 output extends into the said channel and is itself bounded by
6 the material of the ~~custom moulded ear plug~~ shell.

1 4. (currently amended) ~~Custom moulded ear plug~~ The device
2 as in one of the claims ~~1 to~~ 2, 8, or 9, characterized in
3 that, over at least a substantial segment of its length, the
4 channel extends essentially parallel to the outer surface of
5 the ~~custom moulded ear plug~~ device.

1 5. (currently amended) ~~Custom moulded ear plug~~ The device
2 as in one of the claims ~~1 to~~ 2, 8, or 9, characterized in that
3 the ~~custom moulded ear plug~~ device is a custom-moulded hearing
4 aid.

1 6. (currently amended) ~~Custom moulded ear plug~~ The device
2 as in one of the claims ~~1 to~~ 2, 8, or 9, characterized in that
3 the ~~custom moulded ear plug~~ device is ~~an~~ a custom-moulded, in-
4 the-ear hearing aid and that the channel is part of a venting
5 system for the ear drum.

6 7. (currently amended) ~~Custom moulded ear plug~~ The device
7 as in one of the claims ~~1 to~~ 2, 8, or 9, further comprising
8 another channel, characterized in that at least certain
9 segments of ~~at least two of the signal carrying~~ said channels
10 extend[[s]] in parallel fashion.

1 8. (new) A hearing device comprising at least one of an
2 acoustical/electrical converter and an electrical/acoustical
3 converter respectively with an acoustical input or output,
4 said input or output respectively being linked to a coupling
5 opening at the outer surface of said device via a channel, at
6 least a part of said outer surface of said device being formed
7 by a one-part shell of said device defining an inner space,
8 said channel being provided within and along said part of said
9 shell and being formed within the material of said shell.

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cont.
1 9. (new) A hearing device comprising:
2 a one-part shell forming at least a portion of an outer
3 surface of said device, said shell defining an
4 interior space of said device, said shell forming a
5 channel out of the material of said shell, said
6 channel being formed within and along said shell;
7 and
8 at least one of an acoustical/electrical converter and an
9 electrical/acoustical converter including an
10 acoustical input or output, respectively, wherein
11 said input or output is acoustically linked to a coupling
12 opening via said channel.

1 10. (new) A hearing device comprising:
2 a one-part shell forming at least a portion of an outer
3 surface of said device, said shell defining an
4 interior space of said device, said shell forming a
5 channel out of the material of said shell, said

6 channel being formed within and along said shell
7 and, over at least a substantial segment of its
8 length, said channel running essentially parallel to
9 said outer surface; and
10 at least one of an acoustical/electrical converter and an
11 electrical/acoustical converter including an
12 acoustical input or output, respectively, wherein
13 said input or output is acoustically linked to a coupling
14 opening via said channel, and further wherein
15 said channel is tuned to have specific acoustical
16 characteristics.